

WASHINGTON - Congressman John W. Olver (1st District) announced today that the new Facial Recognition Technology program will be implemented in the

Congressman Olver was instrumental in securing an earmark in the fiscal year 2002 Commerce, Justice, and Science appropriations bill.

Fitchburg is participating in the program with Worcester, New Bedford, Brockton and Fall River.

"This technology will help provide our police departments with the best technology available to protect our communities," Olver said.

The technology was unveiled today at the Fitchburg Police Department. Representatives from the FBI, the Department of Justice, and the Department of Commerce were in attendance.

The system is designed to help law enforcement officials track and identify drug dealers, repeat offenders, and other individuals who pose a threat to public safety.

"Our local police forces form the front line of our homeland defense," Olver said. "It is essential that we have the best technology available to protect our communities."

"We are privileged to assist the Fitchburg Police Department and the collaborative in further developing this program," Olver said.

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